(d) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) No, Sir. Bigger stations have higher turnover than smaller stations.

(b) to (d) Licence fees, linked with sales turnover, varies from station to station, depending on the sale turnover of the station. The main objective to link licence fee with sales turnover, was to rationalise different levies from catering/ vending contractors such as conservancy charges, rental for building and vendor's fee, 3 to 4% of sale turnover, etc. as part of licence fee, which were separately being recovered prior to this policy.

Poor catering in trains between New Delhi and Bilaspur

4398. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: Will the MINISTER OF RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Members of Parliament and other VIPs have made complaints in respect of poor catering service in trains running between Hazrat Nizamuddin/ New Delhi and Bilaspur;

(b) if so, the action taken against the catering units/persons responsible for the poor catering services;

(c) whether DRM and other officials have made any surprise checking in these trains; and

(d) if so, the findings thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) One complaint was received in 1998 in this regard and a fine of Rs. 3000/- has been imposed on the licensee. Intensive monitoring is being done at different levels including divisonal officers. Suitable punitive action is taken wherever required.

Responsibility of G.Ms for Rail Safety Lapses

4399. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Zonal Railway General Managers would be made answerable for rail safety lapses;